History at Home - Coloring and Crafts

Some of the crafts contained within include scissors or glue, so be sure to ask an adult for help.

Whirl-i-gig (Buzzsaw)

This toy was popular with kids in Colonial times and even later. Originally, this toy would have been made from small pieces of wood and might even have been shaped like a circular saw with teeth and everything. To play with it, you hold the two ends of the loop of string and spin the disc. Then you pull tight. This makes the disc spin and if you get it going fast enough, it makes a buzzing noise.

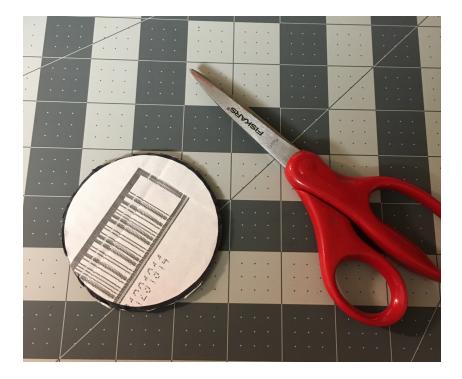
What you're going to need:

- A thick piece of cardboard
- 24 inches of String or yarn
- Scissors
- Something round to trace
- Supplies to decorate with
- Something to punch holes with

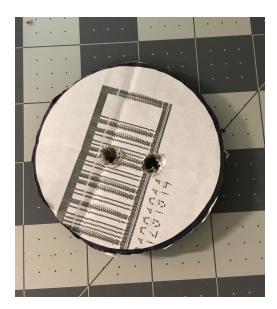
First, trace a circle onto your cardboard



Next, cut out the circle.



Mark two spots an even distance apart from the center of the circle. They should be closer to the center than to the outer edge, but it doesn't have to be precise. Punch your holes in those spots. It should look like a big button.



Before you add the string, go ahead and decorate it. Don't glue anything to it though, since we don't want to change the balance of the circle.

Once that's done, you can thread the yarn or string through the holes in your circle. Tie the ends together to make a continuous loop and then slide it so you have equal amounts on each side of the circle.



Sewing

Throughout history, kids have helped their parents with chores around the house and sometimes that meant sewing.

What you're going to need:

- A stencil. You can even print a picture from the internet but it should be a solid image with simple edges
- A piece of cardboard big enough to trace your stencil onto
- Something to punch holes with
- A long length of string or yarn



First, trace your image onto a piece of cardboard.



Next, cut it out.



Next, you're going to need to make a series of dots around the edge, about 1/4 inch in and about 1/2 to 1-inch apart. You're going to punch those holes out after.



From here, you can start sewing. Take your string and tie a knot in one end. Then pass it through one of the holes going up from the bottom. Pull it all the way to the knot. Pass it down through the next hole and keep alternating until you get all the way back to the beginning.



A Paper Doll

During the Great Depression when most families couldn't afford to get toys, they would make their own. A popular choice would be a paper doll. Some people had elaborate wardrobes for their dolls to rival any Hollywood star. Try and make some new clothes for her yourself!

NURSE

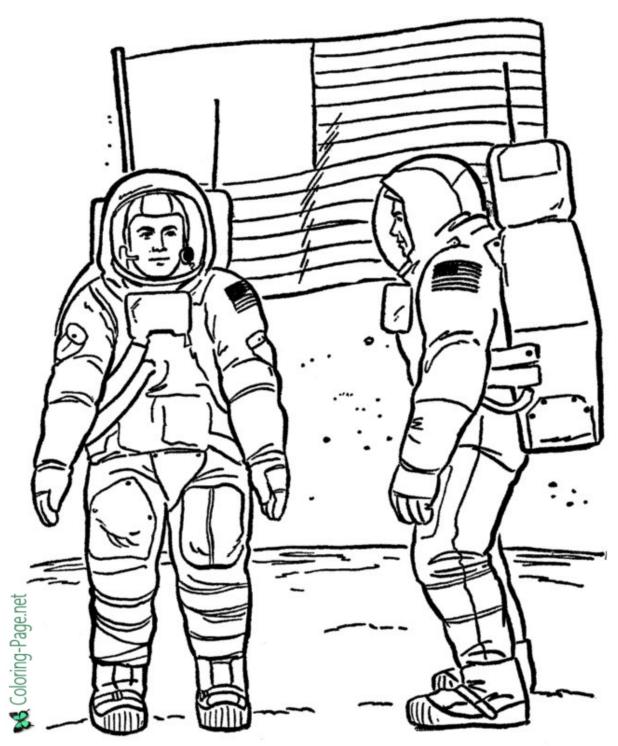
CUT - OUT DOLL



Pictures to Color



Women were given the right to vote in 1920 when the 19th Amendment to the Constitution went into effect.



Armstrong and Aldrin plant the US Flag on the moon.



Our country's first flag.

